

Priority Uses Subcommittee Meeting
MARCH 19, 2003

Subcommittee needs to get focused

We created a mission statement and need to get back to it

Primary purpose for today's meeting is to get all criteria that would be considered on the list

Must recognize that situations may dictate things being handled differently

For example, for some uses the time of year that is more important than for others

Watering lawns not an issue in winter

What do we mean by criteria?

Uses but bringing other factors like time and space begins to add another dimension that helps in terms of setting priorities.

List uses that should be given priority consideration

(Uses are denoted by bullets; comments are in parentheses.)

(Where lack of water would cause irreparable harm.)

- Agricultural crops:
 - Food, turf, ornamentals, livestock

(What do we need to know (data) in order to prioritize?)

(How much water is required relative to value of crop?)

(Priority is how to get the water. To supply from Kent County)

- Lawn watering.
- Drinking Water
- Fire Protection
- Sanitation
- Industrial Uses
- Cooling
- For production/use in manufacturing
- Commercial
- Golf
- Car washes
- Economic Development
- Construction
- Making concrete
- Recreation
- Filling pools

- Watering lawns, etc.
- Athletic fields, parks
- Zoos

(If priority based on ECON impact, might give less priority to parks and more to car washes.)

(Also may consider public, private in setting priorities.)

- Fish Habitat
- Aquaculture has two areas —
 - recreation-raise to fish and
 - commercial/for profit and stocking sustainability
- Hazardous materials - Water for Decontamination
- Washing sidewalks –
- Residential cleaning
- Commercial cleaning

(If economic impact is a criterion, then maybe should consider if uses are by public or private entities)

Draft criteria for next meeting

(May need research on R.I. needs)
(Amount of water and cash value)

(Two companies employ 500 people)

- Infrastructure
 - Utilities
 - Electrical
 - Water supply
 - Water to maintain facilities
 - Telecommunications
- Construction
- Hospitality and tourism.

Criteria

Life or death situation
Public health and safety
Effect on quality of life
Emergency management
Number of individuals affected
Life sustaining v. increasing wealth
Maintaining v. increasing wealth
Does lack of water cause irreversible harm to
 crops,
 habitat,
 people

Causes economic impact
Food production
Educational uses
Maintaining existing uses

Availability of water
Effect on infrastructure
Supply vs. demand
Geographic distribution
Watersheds
Net water usage
Seasonality of use
Potential for recycling
Consumptive vs. non consumptive
Type of water needed:
 Groundwater/surface water
 Potable/non potable
Capacity (supply infrastructure). Is it where we need it, and do we have infrastructure to get it there?
Uses that conserve
Reserving for future use/needs
Interstate transfer v. keeping it in state
Intrastate transfer

Consistency with state statutes, goals, and policies
Riparian vs. non riparian rights (existing statutes and case law)

Long term planning
Differences between long term planning and emergency management availability
Long term resource management
Build out analysis to protect new sources in the long run
Point--Reserving water for the resource and for future needs. Don't want to over-allocate the supply.

Discussion re developing criteria to use in making all priority decisions.

Ken Ayars to refine his summary for next meeting

Next meeting 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 16, and Wednesday, May 21